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ABSTRACT

The school enrollment statistics reported in this publication are based on the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1973 by the Bureau of the Census. Although this report features the school enrollment of persons 3-34 years of age, 787,000 additional persons 35 and over are reported as enrolled in college. Two tables provide information on the school enrollment status of the population 3-34 years of age by level of school, age, and race for October 1964 to October 1973; and by age, race, sex, and selected educational characteristics. Two subsequent tables present the enrollment of the population 14-34 years of age by race and sex, from October 1964 to October 1973 and the college enrollment of this same age group by type of college and year of enrollment for October 1973. (Author/DN)

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CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS

Population Characteristics

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE • Social and Economic Statistics Administration • Bureau of the Census

Series P-20, No. 261 March 1974

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT IN THE UNITED STATES: OCTOBER 1973

(Advance report)

Elementary school enrollment (grades 1 through 8) declined from 32.2 million students in 1972 to 31.5 million in the fall of 1973. This decline in elementary school enrollment which started in 1970-71 reflects a decrease in the number of persons of elementary school age in recent years as the children born in the mid-1960's replaced those born in the high fertility period of the 1950's. The number of births in the United States began to decline in the early 1960's and elementary school enrollment declined after 1970 as those children reached school age. The decline occurred in both private and public schools. Private elementary enrollment has declined by 1,578,000 students since 1964, to a current level of 3.3 million. Public elementary enrollment declined by about 500,000 in the past year to 28.2 million students (returning to the same level as in 1966). High school and college enrollment levels for persons under 35 years old have not changed significantly during the past 2 years; about 15.3 million students attended high school (grades 9 through 12) and 8.2 million persons 14 to 34 years old attended college. The number of persons in these ages are still unaffected by the declining trend in fertility.

These results are based on the Current Population Survey conducted in October 1973 by the Bureau of the Census; the figures are for the civilian population, excluding inmates of institutions. Although this report features the school enrollment of persons 3 to 34 years of age, 787,000 additional persons 35 years old and over were reported as enrolled in college.

Of the 8.2 million persons 14 to 34 years old enrolled in college in October 1973, 684,000 or 8 percent, were black. Although enrollment rates for blacks and whites are the same at ages 14 and 15 years old, at ages 18 to 21 years old the enrollment rate for blacks was about 8 percentage points lower than for whites, indicating that blacks are still somewhat less likely than whites to continue in school past the compulsory attendance ages. High school drop out rates (that is, the proportion of the age group not enrolled in school and not a high school graduate) were also higher for blacks than for whites at ages 18 to 21 years old. About 28 percent of blacks of that age were not enrolled in school nor high school graduates (513,000 persons) compared with 14 percent of the white population (1.8 million persons). The difference between black and white levels is about the same as it was 6 years ago.

About 1.3 million students were enrolled in nursery schools, mostly in private schools, and about 3.1 million were enrolled in kindergartens, nearly all public schools. About 24 percent of the 3-and 4-year-olds were attending schools that offered some type of formal instruction in 1973 compared with 10 percent in 1964; 93 percent of the 5-and 6-year-olds were enrolled in school in October 1973 compared with 83 percent in 1964.

About 1.8 million students 14 to 34 years old were enrolled in 2-year colleges in October 1973, representing 41 percent of the freshman and sophomore classes. There is further evidence

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from the fall 1973 survey as in the 1972 survey that persons of college age are not attending college at the same high rates as in the late 1960's. About 43 percent of persons 18 and 19 years old were enrolled in school in 1973 as compared with 48 percent in 1970.

Women have been attending colleges in increasing numbers over the past 10 years, but still in 1973 more men than women were in college and men were attending at a higher rate. Women were more likely to be attending colleges at the freshman or sophomore levels than at the upper college levels. Approximately 47 percent of freshmen were women compared with 42 percent of juniors and seniors and 36 percent of graduate students.

Since the figures presented in this report are based on sample data, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census. The sampling variation may be relatively large where the numbers shown are small. A more complete statement on the variability due to sampling, as well as more detailed information about the fall enrollment figures, will be issued in a later report in this series.

Table 1. SCHOOL ENROLLMENT OF THE POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD BY LEVEL OF SCHOOL, AGE, AND RACE: OCTOBER 1964 TO OCTOBER 1973

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Level and control of school and age	1973			1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964
	All races	White	Negro									
LEVEL OF SCHOOL												
Total enrolled	59,392	50,617	7,831	60,142	61,106	60,357	59,913	58,791	57,656	56,167	53,769	51,658
Nursery school	1,324	1,087	210	1,283	1,066	1,096	860	816	713	688	(NA)	(NA)
Public	400	242	146	402	317	333	245	262	230	215	(NA)	(NA)
Private	924	845	64	881	749	763	615	554	484	473	(NA)	(NA)
Kindergarten	3,074	2,584	423	3,135	3,263	3,183	3,276	3,268	3,312	3,114	3,038	2,815
Public	2,582	2,139	391	2,636	2,689	2,647	2,682	2,709	2,678	2,527	2,425	2,339
Private	493	445	32	499	574	536	594	559	635	587	613	476
Elementary school (grades 1 to 8)	31,469	26,531	4,473	32,242	33,507	33,950	33,788	33,761	33,440	32,916	32,082	31,388
Public	28,201	23,506	4,277	28,693	29,829	30,001	29,825	29,527	28,877	28,208	27,321	26,542
Private	3,268	3,025	196	3,549	3,678	3,949	3,964	4,234	4,562	4,707	4,761	4,846
High school (grades 9 to 12)	15,347	13,091	2,044	15,169	15,183	14,715	14,553	14,145	13,790	13,364	12,975	12,812
Public	14,162	11,967	1,988	14,015	14,057	13,545	13,400	12,793	12,498	11,985	11,517	11,403
Private	1,184	1,124	56	1,155	1,126	1,170	1,153	1,352	1,292	1,377	1,457	1,410
College	8,179	7,324	684	8,313	8,087	7,413	7,435	6,801	6,401	6,085	5,675	4,643
Public	6,224	5,550	537	6,337	6,271	5,699	5,439	4,948	4,540	4,178	3,840	3,025
Private	1,955	1,773	147	1,976	1,816	1,714	1,995	1,854	1,861	1,908	1,835	1,618
PERCENT ENROLLED												
Total, 3 to 34 years old	53.5	53.1	55.8	54.9	56.2	56.4	57.0	56.7	56.6	56.1	55.5	54.5
3 and 4 years	24.2	23.2	28.9	24.4	21.2	20.5	16.1	15.7	14.2	12.5	10.6	9.5
5 and 6 years	92.5	93.0	89.9	91.9	91.6	89.5	88.4	87.6	87.4	85.8	84.9	93.3
7 to 13 years	99.2	99.2	99.1	99.2	99.1	99.2	99.2	99.1	99.3	99.3	99.4	99.0
14 to 17 years	92.9	93.0	92.2	93.3	94.5	94.1	94.0	94.2	93.7	93.7	93.2	93.1
18 and 19 years	42.9	43.4	37.8	46.3	49.2	47.7	50.2	50.4	47.6	47.2	46.3	41.6
20 and 21 years	30.1	31.3	20.5	31.4	32.2	31.9	34.1	31.2	33.3	29.9	27.6	26.3
22 to 24 years	14.5	14.6	12.4	14.8	15.4	14.9	15.4	13.8	13.6	13.2	13.2	9.9
25 to 29 years	8.5	8.7	6.1	8.6	8.0	7.5	7.9	7.0	6.6	6.5	6.1	5.2
30 to 34 years	4.5	4.5	5.0	4.6	4.9	4.2	4.8	3.9	4.0	2.7	3.2	2.6

NA Not available.

Table 2. ENROLLMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY AGE, RACE, SEX, AND SELECTED EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS: OCTOBER 1973

(Numbers in thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Age, race, and sex	Total population	Enrolled in school					Not enrolled in school					
		Total		Below college level	In college		Total		High school graduate		Not high school graduate	
		Number	Percent of population		Total	Full time	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
ALL RACES												
Both sexes	111,109	59,392	53.5	51,214	8,179	6,089	51,717	46.5	34,987	31.5	16,729	15.1
3 and 4 years	7,000	1,692	24.2	1,692	-	-	5,308	75.8	-	-	5,308	75.8
5 and 6 years	6,731	6,228	92.5	6,228	-	-	502	7.5	-	-	502	7.5
7 to 9 years	11,131	11,036	99.1	11,036	-	-	95	0.9	-	-	95	0.9
10 to 13 years	16,376	16,253	99.2	16,253	-	-	123	0.8	-	-	123	0.8
14 and 15 years	8,326	8,118	97.5	8,112	6	6	208	2.5	7	0.1	201	2.4
16 and 17 years	8,196	7,236	88.3	6,947	289	264	960	11.7	214	2.6	746	9.1
18 and 19 years	7,649	3,284	42.9	766	2,517	2,358	4,366	57.1	3,138	41.0	1,228	16.0
20 and 21 years	7,114	2,144	30.1	70	2,073	1,834	4,970	69.9	3,848	54.1	1,122	15.8
22 to 24 years	10,474	1,515	14.5	50	1,465	980	8,959	85.5	7 336	70.0	1,623	15.5
25 to 29 years	15,369	1,309	8.5	31	1,278	491	14,060	91.5	11,298	73.5	2,762	18.0
30 to 34 years	12,744	580	4.5	28	551	155	12,165	95.5	9,146	71.8	3,019	23.7
Male	55,088	30,889	56.1	26,212	4,677	3,503	24,200	43.9	16,158	29.3	8,042	14.6
3 and 4 years	3,570	876	24.5	876	-	-	2,694	75.5	-	-	2,694	75.5
5 and 6 years	3,429	3,162	92.2	3,162	-	-	267	7.8	-	-	267	7.8
7 to 9 years	5,666	5,610	99.0	5,610	-	-	56	1.0	-	-	56	1.0
10 to 13 years	8,337	8,274	99.2	8,274	-	-	63	0.8	-	-	63	0.8
14 and 15 years	4,232	4,145	97.9	4,145	-	-	87	2.1	1	-	86	2.0
16 and 17 years	4,140	3,700	89.4	3,579	121	112	439	10.6	70	1.7	369	8.9
18 and 19 years	3,720	1,783	47.9	490	1,293	1,214	1,937	52.1	1,348	36.2	589	15.8
20 and 21 years	3,360	1,157	34.4	27	1,130	1,005	2,203	65.6	1,672	49.8	531	15.8
22 to 24 years	5,031	961	19.1	24	937	691	4,070	80.9	3,336	66.3	733	14.6
25 to 29 years	7,446	878	11.8	11	867	373	6,568	88.2	5,325	71.5	1 243	16.7
30 to 34 years	6,157	342	5.6	13	329	108	5,816	94.4	4,404	71.5	1,411	22.9
Female	56,021	28,504	50.9	25,002	3,502	2,586	27,517	49.1	18,829	33.6	8,687	15.5
3 and 4 years	3,429	816	23.8	816	-	-	2,614	76.2	-	-	2,614	76.2
5 and 6 years	3,302	3,066	92.9	3,066	-	-	236	7.1	-	-	236	7.1
7 to 9 years	5,464	5,426	99.3	5,426	-	-	39	0.7	-	-	39	0.7
10 to 13 years	8,039	7,979	99.2	7,979	-	-	60	0.8	-	-	60	0.8
14 and 15 years	4,094	3,973	97.1	3,967	6	6	121	2.9	5	0.1	115	2.8
16 and 17 years	4,056	3,536	87.2	3,368	168	152	520	12.8	144	3.5	377	9.3
18 and 19 years	3,929	1,500	38.2	277	1,224	1,145	2,429	61.8	1,791	45.6	638	16.2
20 and 21 years	3,754	987	26.3	43	944	829	2,767	73.7	2,176	58.0	592	15.8
22 to 24 years	5,443	553	10.2	26	528	289	4,890	89.8	4,000	73.5	889	16.3
25 to 29 years	7,923	431	5.4	20	411	118	7 492	94.6	5,972	75.4	1,520	19.2
30 to 34 years	6,587	238	3.6	15	222	47	6,349	96.4	4,742	72.0	1,607	24.4
WHITE												
Both sexes	95,393	50,617	53.1	43,293	7,324	5,408	44,776	46.9	31,110	32.6	13,667	14.3
3 and 4 years	5,880	1,364	23.2	1,364	-	-	4,517	76.8	-	-	4,517	76.8
5 and 6 years	5,669	5,270	93.0	5,270	-	-	399	7.0	-	-	399	7.0
7 to 9 years	9,371	9,291	99.1	9,291	-	-	81	0.9	-	-	81	0.9
10 to 13 years	13,911	13,812	99.3	13,812	-	-	99	0.7	-	-	99	0.7
14 and 15 years	7,097	6,926	97.6	6,919	6	6	171	2.4	4	0.1	167	2.4
16 and 17 years	7,000	6,183	88.3	5,936	247	228	817	11.7	189	2.7	628	9.0
18 and 19 years	6,559	2,849	43.4	568	2,281	2,136	3,710	56.6	2,748	41.9	962	14.7
20 and 21 years	6,143	1,924	31.3	59	1,865	1,647	4,219	68.7	3,379	55.0	840	13.7
22 to 24 years	9,064	1,322	14.6	31	1,292	855	7,742	85.4	6,458	71.3	1,283	14.2
25 to 29 years	13,514	1,174	8.7	22	1,152	413	12,340	91.3	10,116	74.9	2,225	16.5
30 to 34 years	11,184	502	4.5	21	481	123	10,682	95.5	8,215	73.5	2,467	22.1
Male	47,547	26,445	55.6	22,227	4,218	3,140	21,102	44.4	14,451	30.4	6,651	14.0
3 and 4 years	3,008	706	23.5	706	-	-	2,302	76.5	-	-	2 302	76.5
5 and 6 years	2,897	2,686	92.7	2,686	-	-	212	7.3	-	-	212	7.3
7 to 9 years	4,784	4,734	99.0	4,734	-	-	50	1.0	-	-	50	1.0
10 to 13 years	7,103	7,050	99.3	7,050	-	-	53	0.7	-	-	53	0.7
14 and 15 years	3,620	3,549	98.0	3,549	-	-	71	2.0	1	(Z)	69	1.9
16 and 17 years	3,549	3,172	89.4	3,061	111	102	377	10.6	68	1.9	309	8.7
18 and 19 years	3,208	1,553	48.4	376	1,177	1,101	1,655	51.6	1,202	37.5	454	14.1
20 and 21 years	2,921	1,043	35.7	26	1,017	907	1,878	64.3	1,464	50.1	414	14.2
22 to 24 years	4,382	857	19.6	19	838	620	3,525	80.4	2,939	67.1	585	13.4
25 to 29 years	6,611	799	12.1	9	789	325	5,812	87.9	4 790	72.5	1,022	15.5
30 to 34 years	5,463	296	5.4	11	286	85	5,167	94.6	3,987	73.0	1,180	21.6

See footnotes at end of table.

Table 2. ENROLLMENT STATUS OF THE POPULATION 3 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY AGE, RACE, SEX, AND SELECTED EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS: OCTOBER 1973—Continued

Age, race, and sex	Total population	Enrolled in school					Not enrolled in school					
		Total		Below college level	In college		Total		High school graduate		Not high school graduate	
		Number	Percent of population		Total	Full time	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population	Number	Percent of population
WHITE--continued												
Female	47,846	24,171	50.5	21,066	3,105	2,269	23,675	49.5	16,659	34.8	7,016	14.7
3 and 4 years	2,872	657	22.9	657	-	-	2,215	77.1	-	-	2,215	77.1
5 and 6 years	2,772	2,584	93.2	2,584	-	-	188	6.8	-	-	188	6.8
7 to 9 years	4,587	4,556	99.3	4,556	-	-	31	0.7	-	-	31	0.7
10 to 13 years	6,808	6,762	99.3	6,762	-	-	46	0.7	-	-	46	0.7
14 and 15 years	3,477	3,376	97.1	3,370	6	6	101	2.9	3	0.1	98	2.8
16 and 17 years	3,451	3,011	87.3	2,875	136	126	440	12.7	121	3.5	319	9.2
18 and 19 years	3,351	1,297	38.7	193	1,104	1,035	2,054	61.3	1,547	46.2	508	15.2
20 and 21 years	3,222	881	27.4	34	848	740	2,341	72.6	1,915	59.4	426	13.2
22 to 24 years	4,682	465	9.9	12	454	235	4,217	90.1	3,519	75.2	698	14.9
25 to 29 years	6,903	375	5.4	12	363	88	6,528	94.6	5,326	77.2	1,202	17.4
30 to 34 years	5,721	206	3.6	11	196	38	5,515	96.4	4,228	73.9	1,287	22.5
NEGRO												
Both sexes	14,032	7,834	55.8	7,150	684	536	6,198	44.2	3,381	24.1	2,816	20.1
3 and 4 years	1,013	292	28.9	292	-	-	720	71.1	-	-	720	71.1
5 and 6 years	929	835	89.9	835	-	-	93	10.1	-	-	93	10.1
7 to 9 years	1,600	1,587	99.2	1,587	-	-	13	0.8	-	-	13	0.8
10 to 13 years	2,232	2,210	99.0	2,210	-	-	22	1.0	-	-	22	1.0
14 and 15 years	1,106	1,070	96.7	1,070	-	-	36	3.3	2	0.2	34	3.1
16 and 17 years	1,103	967	87.7	930	37	33	136	12.3	22	2.0	113	10.3
18 and 19 years	997	377	37.8	183	194	180	620	62.2	369	37.0	252	25.2
20 and 21 years	855	176	20.5	11	164	146	680	79.5	420	49.1	260	30.4
22 to 24 years	1,262	156	12.4	16	140	97	1,106	87.6	792	62.7	314	24.9
25 to 29 years	1,591	97	6.1	8	89	56	1,494	93.9	1,001	62.9	492	30.9
30 to 34 years	1,344	67	5.0	7	60	24	1,277	95.0	775	57.7	502	37.4
Male	6,732	3,943	58.6	3,585	358	282	2,789	41.4	1,491	22.1	1,298	19.3
3 and 4 years	514	150	29.2	150	-	-	364	70.8	-	-	364	70.8
5 and 6 years	465	414	89.0	414	-	-	51	11.0	-	-	51	11.0
7 to 9 years	795	788	99.2	788	-	-	6	0.8	-	-	6	0.8
10 to 13 years	1,116	1,106	99.1	1,106	-	-	10	0.9	-	-	10	0.9
14 and 15 years	543	526	96.9	526	-	-	17	3.1	-	-	17	3.1
16 and 17 years	552	491	89.0	485	7	7	61	11.0	3	0.5	58	10.6
18 and 19 years	467	203	43.5	107	96	93	264	56.5	135	28.8	130	27.7
20 and 21 years	387	95	24.5	2	93	82	292	75.5	188	48.5	105	27.1
22 to 24 years	580	81	13.9	4	77	53	499	86.1	363	62.6	136	23.4
25 to 29 years	717	49	6.9	-	49	31	668	93.1	465	64.9	203	28.3
30 to 34 years	595	38	6.5	2	36	17	557	93.5	338	56.8	219	36.7
Female	7,300	3,891	53.3	3,565	326	253	3,409	46.7	1,890	25.9	1,519	20.8
3 and 4 years	498	142	28.5	142	-	-	356	71.5	-	-	356	71.5
5 and 6 years	464	421	90.9	421	-	-	42	9.1	-	-	42	9.1
7 to 9 years	805	799	99.2	799	-	-	6	0.8	-	-	6	0.8
10 to 13 years	1,116	1,104	98.9	1,104	-	-	12	1.1	-	-	12	1.1
14 and 15 years	563	543	96.5	543	-	-	20	3.5	2	0.4	18	3.1
16 and 17 years	550	475	86.4	446	30	26	75	13.6	20	3.6	55	10.0
18 and 19 years	530	173	32.8	76	97	87	356	67.2	234	44.2	122	23.0
20 and 21 years	468	81	17.3	10	71	64	387	82.7	232	49.6	155	33.1
22 to 24 years	683	75	11.1	12	63	43	607	88.9	428	62.8	179	26.2
25 to 29 years	874	48	5.5	8	40	25	826	94.5	536	61.4	290	33.1
30 to 34 years	749	28	3.8	5	24	7	721	96.2	437	58.4	283	37.8

- Represents zero. Z Less than 0.05 percent.

Table 3. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OF THE POPULATION 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY RACE AND SEX: OCTOBER 1964 TO OCTOBER 1973

(In thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

Year	All races			White			Negro		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
1973	8,179	4,677	3,502	7,324	4,218	3,105	684	358	326
1972	8,313	4,853	3,460	7,458	4,397	3,061	727	384	343
1971	8,087	4,850	3,236	7,273	4,407	2,867	680	363	317
1970	7,413	4,401	3,013	6,759	4,066	2,693	522	253	269
1969	7,435	4,448	2,987	6,827	4,146	2,681	492	236	256
1968	6,801	4,124	2,677	6,255	3,843	2,412	434	221	213
1967	6,401	3,841	2,560	5,905	3,560	2,345	370	199	171
1966	6,085	3,749	2,337	5,708	3,536	2,172	282	154	128
1965	5,675	3,503	2 172	5,317	3,326	1,991	274	126	148
1964	4,643	2,888	1,755	4,337	2,720	1,617	234	120	114

Table 4. COLLEGE ENROLLMENT OF PERSONS 14 TO 34 YEARS OLD, BY TYPE OF COLLEGE AND YEAR OF ENROLLMENT: OCTOBER 1973

(In thousands. Civilian noninstitutional population)

College and year of enrollment	Total	Male	Female
ALL COLLEGES[1]			
Total	8,179	4,677	3,502
First year	2,282	1,205	1,077
Second year	1,807	1,020	787
Third year	1,476	851	625
Fourth year	1,230	715	515
Fifth year or higher	1,385	887	498
TWO YEAR			
Total	1,797	1,012	785
First year	929	477	452
Second year	742	457	285
Third year	125	78	48
FOUR YEAR			
Total	4,776	2,665	2,111
First year	1,226	669	557
Second year	1,018	539	479
Third year	1,302	742	561
Fourth year	1,230	715	515

[1] Includes not reported on type of college not shown separately.

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